

c. 1900

BA 1657

Margaret Meadows

Dr. A. Edward Maumenee and Dr. Irene H. Maumenee

Hillside Road

Stevenson, Maryland 21153

(private)

Margaret Meadows is a large formal mansion dating in its entirety from the very early twentieth century but designed as a sophisticated interpretation of the English Regency style of about a century earlier. Mid-nineteenth century Gothic-revival cast-iron fencing adds to the very English feeling of this property.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA 1657
x-883.170
y-576.120

MAGI # 0316572704

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC MARGARET MEADOWS

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Hillside Road

Second

CITY, TOWN

Stevenson

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

— VICINITY OF

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☒ DISTRICT
☐ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Dr. A. Edward Maumenee and Dr. Irene H. Maumenee Telephone #: 484-8285

STREET & NUMBER

Hillside Road

CITY, TOWN

Stevenson

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21153

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore
County Courts Building

Liber #: 5844

Folio #: 314

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson, Maryland 21204

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

BA-1657

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

MARGARET MEADOWS is a formal mansion dating in its entirety from the very early twentieth century but designed as a sophisticated interpretation of the English Regency style of about a century earlier. Two and one-half storeys in height, five bays in length, the attic storey is masked by a parapet above the three projecting bays of the south or principal facade and by a balustrade elsewhere.

Exterior walls are of yellow stucco. Pilasters are at each corner of the central projection of the south facade and the parapet above that projection rises as a central gable. Typical windows are 1/1 with narrow frames and louvred blinds. Above the entrance centered in the south facade are two closely-spaced windows and a porch shelters that entrance, its flat roof surrounded by a balustrade. A pedimented dormer is on either side of the central gable and the principal roof is hipped. Chimneys rise internally flush with the end walls. A two-storey service wing extends north behind the east end of the house, four bays in length, its height, hipped roof, balustrade and other exterior detailing matching that of the main house.

The principal entrance to the house is through a small porch diagonally in the corner formed by the north facade of the main house and the west side of the service wing. A tripartite window above it marks the stair landing within, immediately above the entrance into the wide central hall. A large drawing room is west of the hall and the dining room is east. A smaller room in the northwest quadrant is a library. In the north wing is the pantry and kitchen. Virtually all original detailing remains, sophisticated and consistent with the exterior: high paneled wainscot in the hall and dining room; staircase with four turned balusters per tread supporting a moulded handrail; mantels in each principal room including the hall; cornices in the principal rooms; and the paneled beamed ceiling in the hall and dining room. The mantel of the hall is of the early nineteenth century with pilasters having reeding set in panels, an architrave with gauge-carving, a frieze with paneled center blocks and a dentiled cornice-shelf.

The plan and detailing of the second storey is similar but simpler. Several servants' rooms are in the north wing. The large attic above the entire house is roughly finished, hiding

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CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

BA-1657

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MARGARET MEADOWS BA # 1657

all structural details. A cellar extends beneath the entire house, its foundation walls of stone. Exposed circular-sawn framing is uniform in age.

Two ranges of mid-nineteenth century cast-iron fencing in the Gothic-revival style extend from the north side of the house. Two pairs of cast-iron gate posts have paneled faces with raised ornamental tracery and the massive finials are Gothic in style. Immediately adjacent to the gates are tall Gothic pinnacles ornamented with crockets and finials and the gates together form an ogee arch full of tracery with crockets and large Gothic finial.

Three frame tenant houses are each two storeys in height, three bays in width with rear kitchen wings; they date from the late nineteenth century. Two small barns are of frame. A frame carriage house with a mansard roof, one storey in height, has a large louvred cupola; it has been adapted as a dwelling unit.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

MARGARET MEADOWS is a mansion of the very early twentieth century designed in the English Regency style of the very early nineteenth century. Mid-nineteenth century Gothic-revival cast-iron fencing adds to the very English feeling of this property.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

Margaret Meadows

It is believed that the house known as Margaret Meadows was built in the late nineteenth century. A recent owner, Mrs. Gaylord Clark, believed that there had been a fire in the original house during ownership by the Janneys (1888-1909) and that they had to totally rebuild the dwelling.^{1/} An architect's examination of the building did not reveal materials dating prior to the 1890s, thus lending credence to Mrs. Clark's claim.

However, while the present house is not quite 100 years old, the history of the land on which it stands reaches far back into the past. The estate is made up of portions of three land tracts -- Green Spring Punch, Severn, and Lystra -- once owned by Samuel and Ruth (Cockey) Owings III. When Owings died in 1828, he left approximately 215 acres of these tracts to his son, James Winchester Owings.^{2/} This Owings probably built the first Margaret Meadows soon afterward; he was living in the Valley when he served in 1832 and 1834 as a vestryman for St. Thomas' Episcopal Church.^{3/} In 1833 he and his wife Maria sold 15 1/8 acres of Lystra to Samuel Stone, and on 27 January 1840 they sold the remaining acreage to Matthew Borland for \$6,562.15. ^{4/}

Borland died in 1841 and was buried at Stone Chapel cemetery.^{5/} His wife Sarah was left to raise two young daughters. On 1 March 1845 she offered her 184 acre estate for sale, describing the residence as "a two-story stone dwelling house, with spacious parlours and numerous lodging rooms."^{6/} It is doubtful Borland had built the house. He only lived there less than two years, and the advertisement surely would have mentioned that the house was recently built if he had constructed it.

Charles T. Williams bought the property for \$7,000 on 24 May 1845.^{7/} He and his wife Mary are listed in the 1850 Census.^{8/} Williams offered the farm for sale in 1856. His newspaper notice described the stone dwelling as "built in the best manner, containing 11 rooms."^{9/}

Between 1877 and 1886 ownership of the house and property is not clear. Presumably it was bought by Samuel Stone and sold to his nephew, Alexander Hamilton Stump, or Stump bought it himself. In any event the property was in Stump's possession as part of his "Stoneton" estate when he died in 1886.^{10/} Stump did not reside here as he had his own mansion on Green Spring Valley Road.

In 1888, 130 1/2 acres of "Stoneton" property- which was the Margaret Meadows land and house - were sold to Thomas Janney for \$9,000.11/ He bought additional acreage totalling 88 acres from the Stump estate in 1889 and 1894.12/ He also owned the row of houses extending from Margaret Meadows along Hillside Avenue to Stevenson Road which are today private residences.13/ It is this Janney who allegedly had to rebuild his home after a fire. It is also believed that he named the place Margaret Meadows after his daughter; no name for the estate has been found prior to this time.14/

Thomas Janney died in 1907 and left his estate to his wife Frances. She sold the 130 1/2 acres and house to her son G. Mason Janney of New York on 2 June 1909. Mrs. Janney died in 1914. In accordance with her late husband's will, the remaining 88 acres of the estate was held in trust for his two sons.15/

Although G. Mason Janney and his wife were the next owners, it is believed that the house was actually rented to a number of different families.16/ Finally on 10 April 1930 the Janneys sold 126 1/2 acres and the house to Gaylord Lee and Juliana (Keyser) Clark. In 1956 and 1962 the Clarks bought 32 of the former 88 acres of the Janney estate, increasing their property to 158 1/2 acres.17/

The Clarks made structural changes to Margaret Meadows on both floors and removed a porte-cochere.18/ After the death of Mrs. Clark who lived for several years after the death of her husband, the house was sold to the present owners. 19/

Margaret Meadows
Footnotes

- 1/ Interview with Mrs. Gaylord Lee Clark and her daughter, Mrs. Rutherford Holmes, 14 November 1972.
- 2/ Baltimore County Wills (BCW), Liber 13, fol. 115, Hall of Records (HR), Annapolis, Maryland.
- 3/ Ethan Allen, The Garrison Church (New York: James Pott and Co., 1898), p. 188.
- 4/ Baltimore County Land Records (BCLR), Libers 231, fol. 265, and T.K. no. 295, fol. 199, Baltimore Court House, Baltimore, Maryland.
- 5/ Tombstone inscriptions, Stone Chapel cemetery, Baltimore County.
- 6/ American Republic and Baltimore Daily Clipper, 1 March 1845.
- 7/ BCLR, Liber A. W. B. no. 361, fol. 165, Baltimore.
- 8/ United States Census for Baltimore County, District One, 1850, house 2511, Family 2657, Maryland Historical Society (MHS), Baltimore, Maryland.
- 9/ Baltimore and Commercial Advertiser, 2 August 1856.
- 10/ Harry S. Middendorf, "The Early Beginnings of the Green Spring Valley," written notes in possession of his wife.
- 11/ BCLR, Liber J.W.S. no. 166, fol. 38, Towson Court House, Towson, Maryland.
- 12/ BCLR, Libers J. W. S. no. 175, fol. 568, and L. M. B. no. 207, fol. 58, Towson.
- 13/ Interview with Mr. Charles J. Moore, Jr., 20 November 1972.
- 14/ BCLR, Libers G. L. B. n. 2635, fol. 529, and J.W.S. no. 163, fol. 515, Towson.
- 15/ See note 1.
- 16/ Tbid.; BCLR, Libers L. McL. M. no. 848, fol. 199, G.L.B. no 3014, fol. 329, and W.J.R. no. 3905, fol. 27, Towson.
- 17/ See note 1.
- 18/ See note 1.
- 19/ BCLR, Liber 5844, fol. 314, Towson.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dawn F. Thomas and Robert W. Barnes, The Green Spring Valley: Its History and Heritage, 2 vols. (Baltimore; Maryland Historical Society, 1978)

Baltimore County Land Records, County Courts Building, Towson, Maryland.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Dawn F. Thomas, Research Historian/ James T. Wollen, A.I.A. 2-8-80
ORGANIZATION DATE

Valleys Planning Council
STREET & NUMBER

828-7807
TELEPHONE

212 Washington Avenue
CITY OR TOWN

Maryland 21204
STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



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Mapped by the Army Map Service
Edited and published by the Geological Survey
Cont. USGS and USACE
Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric
methods. Aerial photographs taken 1943. Field check 1944.
Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1957
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
630-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system.
Universal Transverse Mercator grid shown
shown in blue

HISTORIC DISTRICTS
HISTORIC BUILT DEMOLISHED



BA 1657
Margaret
Meadows
Hillside Rd.
GSVHD
JTW
10-13-79
Md.Hist.Tr.
from south



BA 1657 A
Margaret
Meadows
gate & fence
GSVHD
Hillside Rd.
JWW
10-13-79
Md. Hist. Tr.
from south